PUDUKKOTTAI STATE

WAR INFORMATION BUREAU

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LECTURE LVI.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN RUSSIA.*

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RUSSO-GERMAN WAR. While the World is waiting for trustworthy news of the war on the borders of European RUSSIA, and much may depend upon the outcome of what is said to be the biggest group of battles ever fought at the same time, the moment may not seem to be suitable for musing on things in general.

No anybody who had not seen that country, as well as the northern slopes of the Carpathians, the rivers Dniester and Prutu, with BESSARABIA between them, can have any notion of the physical geography of the immense contest.

Places which are mentioned as having been taken or retaken may look important on the map, whereas in Eastern POLAND and White RUSSIA at least, they are little more than glorified villages, far apart in a very empty country. The loss or the capture of such places mean very little indeed.

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* Reproduced from a recent B. B. C. Talk by Mr. Wickham Steed, with slight alterations.

On the other hand, the clash between the forces of Nazi GERMANY and of Soviet RUSSIA means a great deal, not only militarily but morally, politically and almost philosophically.

THE FUTURE OF EUROPE IN THE BALANCE. The fate of POLAND and the future of EUROPE might depend upon the ultimate behaviour of POLAND'S two powerful neighbours, the Russian immensity on the East and the German or Pan-German concentration of power on the West.

BOLSHEVISM. 15 years ago Red RUSSIA was generally thought to be a far greater danger to what we call Western civilization than GERMANY could be. Hitler and Hitlerism were then very small clouds on the horizon.

ANTI-BOLSHEVIK PROPAGANDA. True, GERMANY was secretly re-arming with the help of Soviet RUSSIA. And Hitler was denouncing the perils of Bolshevism and Marxism and Jewry up and down the country. His blatant Pan-Germanism frightened nobody, except those who knew by experience how responsive might be the chords in the German mind which he was touching with infernal skill.

Gradually the outlook changed, almost beyond recognition. I think that behind the nations at present fighting, it is still changing and changing more swiftly than most people imagine.

As was to be expected, when Hitler decided to attack RUSSIA, he and Goebbels started chanting the old anti-Bolshevik, anti-Communist anthems. And all their satellites, from ROME to VICHY FRANCE, as well as their dupes, like Colonel Lindbergh in the UNITED STATES, are faithfully singing seconds to the main air.

But other people remember that rather less than two years ago, Hitler and Goebbels were chanting the praises of Soviet RUSSIA. They have altered their tune too soon or too late.

KARL MARX GETTING OUT OF DATE. In point of fact, Hitler, Goebbels, and their satellites are a little out of date. RUSSIA to-day is not quite the Bolshevik RUSSIA of 15 or of even

10 years ago. Then Russian buildings used to be plastered with Karl Marx's dictum that religion is the opiate of the people. That anti-God propaganda may still be going on.

But beneath the surface there have been two changes. In the schools, the history of old RUSSIA has been taught, with a sense of the national continuity. In the provinces there has been a good deal of free discussion.

Now it is reported that 12,000 worshippers gathered in the Moscow Cathedral to beseech the Almighty to grant RUSSIA victory in this war for the fatherland, honour and freedom.

Stalin's broadcast shows clearly that he is appealing to all elements in the life of a nation in which the materialist philosophy preached by Karl Marx and by Communist propaganda throws scorn on religion as poison for the multitude.

It may of course be said that, if and when the Russian Government wins the war, there will be nothing to prevent it from returning to what has so often been denounced as its anti-God teachings, and that the apparent change in RUSSIA is no more to be trusted than are Hitler's rodomontades of the beautiful new order he wishes to set up in Europe.

NATIONS CANNOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE.

If the change in RUSSIA was nothing more than an improvisation, designed to meet the needs of the hour, this argument might be stronger than it is. All the information for ten years past goes to show that the change is real, that it has been going on beneath the surface even in education for a long time, and that what has now taken place is a sort of official recognition of the fact, interpreted in various Russian ways, that nations like men do not and cannot live by bread alone.

If so, the significance of this change may be extraordinary, and it will not be confined to RUSSIA. It will mean the dethronement of the materialist conception of history, that is to say of the idea that material and economic motives completely govern the lives of men, an idea which has distorted so much social and political thought in the recent past, especially among the younger generation.

FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY. As the historian of economic processes, Karl Marx was a very important fellow indeed. As a philosopher, he is narrow and one-sided.

The trouble about his materialist philosophy of history is that it leaves a good half of history unexplained and inexplicable. It certainly does not explain why so many millions of men and women in GREAT BRITAIN and throughout a great part of the civilised world should to-day be willing to fight and to die for a moral conception like that of freedom.

As an ideal, freedom may be hard to define, but it is an ideal not primarily or consciously material. Though it may be compatible with many varieties of social or political organisation, it does not represent in the mind of those who believe in and fight for it merely higher wages or more big business or cheaper automobiles. And the value of the democracy which is often coupled with freedom, and with the political and social ideals which BRITAIN and her allies are upholding, lies precisely in the fact that it tends to safeguard individual freedom more fully and permanently than any other system of Government.

STALIN AND FREEDOM. In substance, the British and Allied war aims are not far from the political creed of the old 19th century Liberals, though they and their successors brought discredit on their creed by associating it too closely with one form of economic activity. So some may have voted against them under what may be broadly termed a reaction, and others were attracted by the various forms of Socialism or Communism. Of the latter, many looked to Moscow as to a sort of MECCA. Is it of no account or of little significance that the ideal of freedom should to-day be proclaimed from that MECCA, even by Stalin himself in his latest broadcast to the Russian people?

HITLER'S LUST OF POWER While we fight, not unsuccessfully, the Battle of the Atlantic, with the help of the UNITED STATES, while we take steps to co-ordinate the defence of INDIA with the defence of the MIDDLE EAST, and to turn the lessons of CRETE to good purpose in our own precautions against possible attempts to invade the BRITISH ISLES, it seems to me no loss of time to think of these wider and deeper aspects of the struggle.

Nor in thinking of them ought we to overlook the motive that inspired the enemy. Otherwise we may go wrong. We may call Hitler's motive pan-Germanism or megalomania, and may comfort ourselves with the thought that he is over-reaching himself, over-straining his resources, and that he must sooner or later come to grief; but we ought not to forget that he too is inspired by a feeling or a fanatical faith of which the ultimate object may be material, though in the present it is more akin to a mystical passion.

Some years ago, one of his shrewdest German critics wrote that the idea behind Hitler's and GERMANY's effort to build up overwhelming military strength was lust of power, of power for its own sake, not primarily of power as a means of material gain. Hitler's lust of power, this critic declared, was almost an end in itself, not in the first place a means to an end.

If this be broadly true, as I think it is, we should have to judge Hitler's bid for world mastery as an attempt to outdo Alexander the Great and Napoleon. This may be his ambition, but his practice resembles that of Atilla, the destroying Hun.

DOMINATION VERSUS FREEDOM.

So it comes about that this unprecedented war resolves itself into a struggle for power with two very different objects. On the German side, power is desired for the glory and the ecstasy and the ultimate profit of dominating the world and of ruling mankind. On the British and Allied side, power is desired to set men and nations free to live their own lives in their own way under the supremacy of a moral law, national and international.

Between these two objects, men and nations have to choose, and in making their choice to stake their lives and possessions upon the result. I think it is a matter of no little moment that Hitler should have made what I believe will prove to be the crowning blunder of compelling RUSSIA to fight against him, and at least indirectly to throw her immense weight into the balance on the side of the forces that make for human freedom.

VICHY AND MARXISM.

One advantage of taking what many may think a too philosophical view of the war is that it helps to explain why the men of VICHY, for example,

should side so willingly with the forces of tyranny, why they should have repudiated the great French Revolution of 1789 with its proclamation of the rights of men.

Doubtless they, and others who feel a sneaking sympathy with them, were disgusted with the materialism of the Marxist philosophy which many advanced thinkers and politicians professed. Their disgust was stronger than their grasp on the philosophy of freedom.

FIGHT FOR FREEDOM. We have now to strengthen our own grasp on this philosophy. We have, in the words of an ancient Serbian proverb, to " fight for freedom like archangels, and when we have won it to live in it like saints."

WHAT IS FREEDOM. We have to remember what an English philosopher, the late Professor Hobhouse, wrote after the last Great War—" Essentially political freedom does not consist in like-mindedness, but in the toleration of differences, or more positively in the acceptance of differences contributing to a richer life than uniformity."

The claim of the free individual is not the impossible one that the common decision should coincide with his own, but that he should have as much scope for expression as any one man can have, if all others have it and live and act together. More than this is the beginning of tyranny, less is the beginning of slavery.

Hitler's avowed aim is to enforce like-mindedness on a Nazified world; our aim is voluntary unity and diversity under the democratic law.

Nazism is spiritual aud political enslavement, Freedom, as we understand it, is spiritual and political liberation. Now even Stalin urges the Russian people to fight for freedom; in so doing they may help to bring themselves and the world one stage nearer to it.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

31—7—41 to 6—8—41.

THE RUSSO-GERMAN WAR.

Germans Bogged in Russia.—As the struggle enters upon the seventh week Moscow's hopes are getting brighter, and GERMANY'S are sinking. 'The enemy is not yet defeated', says the Red Star, the organ of the Soviet army, 'but the failure of Hitler's *Blitzkrieg* plans is already clear'. On the other hand, 'the Fascist Press no longer intones hymns of praise for the *Blitzkrieg*'. Dr. Goebbels is also reported to have recently lamented that if GERMANY failed ruin threatened her.

Lame Excuses.—To account for the failure, German apologists are busy inventing excuses. They say: 'We have to fight for every metre and kilometre of ground'. The rear of the German line has to be cleared of 'Russian pockets'; time is required to rest exhausted troops, overhaul machines, and bring up fresh troops. 'Spectacular success' cannot be expected; 'annihilation' of the enemy troops is more necessary than the 'seizure of territory'—These excuses mean, in substance and effect, the failure of the *Blitz* and the bogging of the German forces. But the most original, if also the most frivolous of the pleas yet expressed is that the Russian soldiers do not collapse because Bolshevism has killed their souls.

Causes of the failure.—The failure is in fact due to a radical difference between the French front, where the *Blitz* succeeded last year, and the Russian front where the conditions are not similar. In the western theatre the German drive towards ABBEVILLE and PONTARLIER was helped by the terrain and facilitated by French unpreparedness. But in RUSSIA the difficult communications and the Russian preparedness have frustrated the drive. While Russian troops initially give way under pressure of tanks, they immediately cut into the rear, while the air-forces smash in front. The German infantry accustomed to advance unhindered in the wake of tanks and planes after the way has been cleared for them, now find themselves halted. 'Hitler, who relied on his almighty tanks, is already beginning to talk of using rifles'.

Transport difficulties.—An insight into GERMANY'S transport difficulties is indicated by the transfer she is now making of Spanish trucks to RUSSIA. Spanish and Russian railway gauges are the same but the German lines are narrower. After the great losses sustained in her Civil war SPAIN has not much rolling stock to spare; yet the fact that the small available rolling stock is hoisted on the narrow German railway and carried as far as Russian territory shows the dire straits to which GERMANY has been reduced.

Disaffection, Sabotage and Famine.—While Hitler's hordes are being battered in RUSSIA, disaffection, sabotage and famine stalk the rear. In YUGO-SLAVIA sabotage is so rampant that in addition to mass executions, 25,000 Nazi troops are said to have been marched in to keep order. In RUMANIA, people who revolt from hunger are shot down as Communists. In AUSTRIA, the long casualty lists are causing discontent. In MILAN and FLORENCE food riots are quelled by the German soldiery. In GREECE the cup of misery is full. Famine and disease stalk the land. Women are reported to drop down dead before empty food shops, while the German authorities are stealing even the supplies put in by the Italian occupying forces.

Russian successes.—In an unrevealed sector designated 'V' and at SMOLENSK the Russian army has routed the 253rd and 137th German divisions. Russian naval and air forces in combination have sunk German destroyers and transports in the Baltic; in addition there has been a naval encounter in the Barents Sea.

Direct British Military Aid.—Direct British help was rendered to RUSSIA on July 31st, when British naval aircraft carried out a successful attack on German shipping at the Norwegian ports of KIRKNOS and PETSAMO. This does not look like an isolated action. British naval forces and Russian troops are being concentrated in the Arctic, which indicates a possible concerted action here, involving a direct British attack.

The Present Situation.—According to the latest reports the new pincer on KIEV has slowed down, but fierce fighting continues near it in the KOROSTEN, BYELAYA—TSERKOV areas. The struggle also continues in the KHOLM, SMOLENSK and ESTONIAN Sectors.

Russo-Norwegian Rapprochement.—RUSSIA and NORWAY have resumed diplomatic relations by expressing a desire for an exchange of ministers.

The Russo-Polish Agreement.—An agreement of far-reaching importance to POLAND and the peace of EUROPE generally, described by Mr. Churchill, as 'a sign and proof that hundreds of millions of people were coming together on the march against a filthy gangster Power' was concluded on July 30 between RUSSIA and POLAND, by which firstly, 500,000 Polish civilian prisoners and 100,000 Polish soldiers now in Russian hands will be set free, and secondly, the Polish Government will render all aid to RUSSIA against GERMANY, including the raising of a Polish army on Russian soil, with Polish Command but under Russian Control. By this agreement RUSSIA also renounces the Treaty of 1939 partitioning POLAND between RUSSIA and POLAND, leaving the refixing of the frontier to a post-war period. Thus, thanks to the unremitting labours of Mr. Anthony Eden, the British Foreign Secretary, the age-long hostility between the two countries has been happily closed, and the way has been opened for the restoration of Polish independence. RUSSIA's seizure, last year, of a part of POLAND, it is now revealed, was only a precaution calculated to prevent GERMANY from approaching RUSSIA's vital centres in the event of war—a policy the wisdom of which has now been amply proved by Russian-occupied POLAND having absorbed the initial shock of the German onslaught in the present struggle. For the future the prospects are bright for the formation of an independent POLAND, with RUSSIA playing the rôle of guide and guardian of Eastern and Central EUROPE.

THE FAR-EAST.

Mr. Sumner Wells has administered a stern rebuke to VICHY in regard to her surrender of INDO-CHINA to JAPAN. He has pointed out that while VICHY not only did not oppose German infiltration in SYRIA but carried out operations against British entry, in INDO-CHINA, she has permitted foreign troops to enter an integral part of her Empire, and occupy bases from which to attack friendly Powers. He has also uttered a stern warning that America's future attitude to VICHY would depend on her effective resistance to the Axis demands. Pétain's explanation that the problems of SYRIA and INDO-CHINA were different, because SYRIA was an object of aggression, while INDO-CHINA was not, is not convincing. There was no danger to either of these countries except from the Axis partners.

The Economic Encirclement.—The economic warfare on Japan is proceeding. AMERICA has prohibited the sale of motor fuel and oil. The Panama Canal has been closed to Japanese shipping 'because of

repairs'. Owing to oil scarcity the Japanese fishing industry has already begun to suffer. Should Japanese aggression persist, the export of non-military materials from the U. S. would also be prohibited.

Japan's Fears.—That JAPAN is afraid of the consequences is revealed in a recent public utterance of Prince Konoye, in which he is reported to have stated that as the war was going to affect JAPAN seriously the country must measure up to the situation. The alacrity with which JAPAN has apologised for attacking the U. S. A.'s ship *Tutila*, and agreed to pay indemnity, betrays the flutter in the Japanese dovecot.

Japan's attitude.—Yet it would be wrong to assume that JAPAN, would not take an opportunity of aggression, if the way was open. It is rumoured that she has invited THAI to walk into the parlour of the 'New Order', and offered ANGKOR and LAOS as bait for a monopoly of rice, tin and rubber. There are indications also that THAI may yield. THAI has already recognised the puppet Government in MANCHUKUO, and allowed her Banking Syndicate to offer credit to the YOKOHAMA Specie Bank for 10 million baht to facilitate Japanese imports. JAPAN's military occupation of INDO-CHINA is now complete. According to a SINGAPORE message the situation is 'extremely serious'.

JAPAN'S mischievous intentions are spreading to the north also, where numerous Japanese troops are said to be concentrating on the MANCHUKUO frontier.

NORWAY'S REVOLT.

German reprisals against Norwegians who had escaped to join the Free Norwegian Forces have provoked the whole country. The recruiting campaign for a Quisling Norwegian Legion to fight Bolshevism has failed, and young men are threatened that if they did not 'volunteer' they would be 'simply taken'. A state of emergency has been proclaimed, under which martial law can be introduced in any specified area.

FIFTH COLUMN IN IRAN.

Some 4000 German 'tourists' are reported to be moving in and out of IRAN. The centre of their intrigues is TABRIZ. They are filtering into the neighbouring territories of the Russian Caucasian Republic, Russian Tukamen and Russian Turkistan. TEHERAN has been forewarned by the diplomatic representatives of GREAT BRITAIN and AMERICA.

AIR RAIDS.

Dummy Berlin.—The R. A. F. offensive of this week has caused extensive damage to KIEL, HAMBURG, CALAIS, MANNHEIM, FRANKFURT, KARLSRUHE, the RUHR and the RHINELAND in general. BERLIN, already raided at least 50 times, received a sound drubbing on the night of August 2, and as the nights grow longer must be prepared for severer blows. A recent observer has described BERLIN as the 'city where no one laughs'. A *Daily Express* Correspondent describes how the Germans have built a dummy BERLIN to confuse the R. A. F. pilots. Paved streets with dummy houses and a railway station have been set up in imitation of BERLIN's thoroughfares and communications; and a small adjoining lake has been covered with planks to conceal it. Motor roads have been painted black, and one of the thoroughfares covered over with green cloth. When the R. A. F. visits BERLIN the dummy city is lighted blue to give the effect of a black-out and bonfires are lighted to give the impression that the British bombs have set fire to it.

German claims about air raids on BRITAIN have become formal and even false. During the week she claimed to have attacked YARMOUTH and PLYMOUTH while in fact not a single bomb was dropped within 40 miles of these places.

Axis air losses of 2,500 planes alone in the first seven months of this year, including 433 for last month alone, reveal the rate of destruction of the enemy Air Force, and the growing power of the R. A. F.

R. A. F. and Russian Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied Territories.

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
28—7—41. (Monday.)	**SICILY.**		
	The Aerodromes at CATANI, SYRACUSE, MASHALA.	...	36 planes destroyed in all. Many more damaged. Heavy casualties among aerodrome personnel.
	BORIZZO landing ground near TRAPANI.	No loss.	

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
28—7—41. (Monday.)—*cont.*			
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	A loaded schooner in the Central Mediterranean.	No loss.	Sunk.
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	Shipping and harbour at BENGHAZI...	...	...
	(By Russian planes) **EASTERN FRONT.**		
	Enemy troop concentrations at various points.	For both the 27th and 28th– 51 planes.	For both the 27th and 28th– 74 planes.
	Enemy Aerodromes behind the lines...	...	...
29—7—41. (Tuesday).			
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The harbour and shipping at BENGHAZI.	...	...
	Aerial fight over the Egyptian-Libyan frontier.	...	1 plane.
	(By Russian planes) **EASTERN FRONT.**		
	Enemy tanks, infantry and aircraft on the aerodromes throughout the entire Front.	5 planes.	9 planes.
	RUMANIA. **PLOESTI** and **SULINA** ...	...	Large fires started.
30—7—41. (Wednesday.)			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
	DAY :—		
	GERMAN shipping in the harbours of KIRKNES and PETSAMO (in Northern SCANDINAVIA.)	16 Naval aircraft.	4 ships hit; one warship at Kirknes also hit. Petrol tanker set on fire. 4 planes.
	NIGHT :—		
	Industrial targets in western GERMANY.	...	...

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
30—7—41.	**(Wednesday.)**—*cont.*		
	SARDINIA.		
	The Italian Sea-plane base and aerodrome at ELMAS.	...	5 bombers burnt out. Many others damaged.
	Aerial fight near SARDINIA ...	...	1 four-engined transport-plane.
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The hourbour at BENGHAZI ...	... No loss.	Fires started.
	GAZALA and **BARDIA** ...	... No loss.	Explosions and fires started.
	Enemy bombers at ZURA ...	No loss.	Many aircraft on the ground damaged.
	FINLAND.		
	LIINAHAMARI ...	...	Machine-gunned.
	(By Russian planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy Motorised and mechanised units and infantry along the whole battle area. ...	...	...
	Air combats over the battle area ...	8 planes.	15 planes.
	2 German Patrol ships in the BALTIC SEA.	...	1 ship sunk. The other damaged.
	Enemy aircraft on an aerodrome in the enemy rear.	...	12 planes destroyed.
31—7—41.	**(Thursday.)**		
	SICILY.		
	Shipping in MESSINA Harbour ...	...	...
	The aerodrome at PALERMO ...	...	...
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The harbour at BENGHAZI ...	...	...
	(By Russian Planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy motorised and mechanised troops and aircraft on aerodromes along the whole front.	...	...
	Air battles over the fighting area ...	7 planes.	15 planes.

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
31—7—41.	**(Thursday.)**—*cont.*		
	BALTIC SEA.		
	A tanker of 5000 tons in the BALTIC SEA.	...	Sunk.
1—8—41.	**(Friday.)**		
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
	DAY :—		
	Enemy vessels in convoy off the BELGIAN coast.	2 bombers and 1 fighter.	1 vessel burnt out, 2 ships damaged.
	NIGHT :—		
	The Docks at KIEL	...	Damaged.
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	Motor transport concentrations in SIDI OMAR.	...	Many vehicles destroyed.
	A seaplane base, a petrol boat and coal stores at BENGHAZI.	...	...
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	An enemy convoy in the central Mediterranean.	...	One vessel hit.
	CRETE.		
	Aerodrome and munitions dump at MALEMI.	...	Munitions dump blown up.
	The Aerodrome at CANDIA ...	...	...
	SICILY.		
	Aircraft on the aerodrome at BORIZOO.	...	One aircraft destroyed and others damaged.
	LAMPEDUSA ISLAND.		
	Two ships off the Island ...	...	Both completely wrecked.
	(By the Russian planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy Panzer units in the battle area. **Air battles** over the entire front ...	19 planes	41 planes.

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
1—8—41. (Friday)—*cont.*			
	BALTIC.		
	Eight transports escorted by 5 destroyers in the BALTIC SEA.	No loss.	1 destroyer and 1 ship sunk; 2 destroyers and 1 ship damaged.
2—8—41. (Saturday).			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
	DAY :—		
	Docks at KIEL ...	...	...
	An enemy patrol ship off the DUTCH coast.	...	Sunk.
	A gun emplacement on the island of AMELAND.	...	Directly hit.
	Enemy troops, aerodromes, aircraft and E-boats in Northern FRANCE.	1 bomber.	...
	NIGHT :—		
	Berlin (Capital of GERMANY).	...	...
	The Docks at KIEL.	...	...
	Docks, railways and industries in HAMBURG.	...	...
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The harbour and an enemy anti-aircraft gun battery at BENGHAZI.	...	...
	Anti-aircraft guns and search-lights at BERKA aerodrome.	...	Silenced.
	The Aerodrome at GAMBUT.	...	Damaged.
	Barrack buildings and a block-house at MISURATA.	No loss.	Buildings crashed.
	(By Russian planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy motorised and mechanised troops, Infantry and Artillery along the whole battle front.	...	...
3—8—41. (Sunday.)			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
	DAY :—		
	Offensive operations over the CHANNEL and Northern FRANCE.	...	...

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
3—8—41.	(Sunday.)—*cont.*		
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE—*cont.*		
	Patrol vessels, aircraft on the ground, troops, gunposts and an aerodrome in Northern FRANCE.	1 plane.	4 day-fighters.
	Industrial Districts in the RUHR and RHINELAND.	...	Damaged.
	Industries and Communications at HANOVER and FRANKFURT-ON-MAIN.	...	Communications disrupted.
	The Docks at CALAIS and BOULOGNE	1 plane.	...
	ITALY.		
	Italian fighters on the ground at REGGIO.	...	11 planes destroyed. A large number of fighters damaged.
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	Offensive patrols over enemy-occupied areas.	...	...
	The port and landing ground at DERNA.	...	Fires started ; A battery silenced.
	Aircraft on the ground and a camp at EL GAZALA.	...	Explosions and fires started.
	The landing ground at MARTUBA.	...	Set on fire.
	Shipping off the coast of APPOLLONIA.	...	2 ships hit.
	Military buildings, harbour and shipping at TRIPOLI.	...	One 8000 ton ship blown up.
	(By Russian planes.)		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy motorised and mechanised units, infantry and artillery along the whole fighting area.	...	...
	Aircraft on enemy aerodromes.	6 planes.	20 planes.

ENEMY Air Raids over BRITAIN, BRITISH Territories and RUSSIA.

Date.	Targets.	Enemy aircraft losses.	R.A.F. and Allied Air Force losses and results of air bombardment.
29—7—41. (Tuesday).			
	BRITAIN.		
NIGHT :—			
	A few places here and there in ENGLAND.	...	Only superficial damage.
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	British shipping off the Coast of CYRENAICA.	4 bombers and 2 fighters.	No damage at all. 2 planes.
	EGYPT.		
	CAIRO ...	...	No damage or casualties.
30—7—41. (Wednesday.)			
	BRITAIN.		
NIGHT :—			
	A few places in the East and South-west ENGLAND.	...	Slight damage.
	RUSSIA.		
	MOSCOW ...	1 plane.	No loss.
31—7—41. (Thursday.)			
	BRITAIN.		
NIGHT :—			
	East and South-west of ENGLAND ...	1 plane.	No damage or casualties.
	RUSSIA.		
	MOSCOW ...	...	No damage.
	LENINGRAD ...	...	...
	EGYPT.		
	NILE DELTA ...	...	Only two casualties. No damage.

Date.	Targets.	Enemy aircraft losses.	R.A.F. and Allied Air Force losses and results of air bombardment.
1—8—41. (Friday).			
	BRITAIN.		
NIGHT :—			
	A few points in South-west ENGLAND and SCOTLAND.	1 plane.	No damage or casualties.
	RUSSIA.		
	MOSCOW ...	2 planes.	Only slight damage. No loss.
2—8—41. (Saturday.)			
	BRITAIN.		
DAY :—			
	East Coast of ENGLAND ...	2 planes.	...
NIGHT :—			
	Eastern ENGLAND and **one point** in South ENGLAND.	2 bombers.	Only slight damage; but no casualties.
	RUSSIA.		
	MOSCOW	2 planes.	Driven away.
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	British Warships off the North AFRICAN Coast.	3 fighters.	4 bombers and one fighter; Many others damaged.
3—8—41. (Sunday.)			
	BRITAIN.		
DAY :—			
	A place on South-east Coast of ENGLAND.	1 bomber.	slight damage and a few casualties.
NIGHT :—			
	East Coast of ENGLAND and SCOTLAND; **A few scattered points** in North-east ENGLAND	...	A few killed and some houses demolished.
	EGYPT.		
	SUEZ Canal Area	...	17 killed and 58 injured.
	CAIRO area and **ALEXANDRIA** ...	...	...
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	MALTA	1 plane.	Slight damage.
	RUSSIA.		
	MOSCOW	...	Slight damage; A few houses set on fire.

Date.	Targets.	Enemy aircraft losses.	R.A.F. and Allied Air Force losses and results of air bombardment.
4—8—41. (Monday.)			
	BRITAIN.		
	No air activity anywhere in BRITAIN.	...	...
	ENGLISH CHANNEL.		
	An armed trawler in the English Channel.	1 plane.	No damage.
	EGYPT.		
	SUEZ Canal Zone ...	...	Slight damage to houses. 90 people killed and 106 injured.
	RUSSIA.		
	MOSCOW	1 plane.	No damage.

SIDE LIGHTS.

"NEITHER PARTY SHALL LAY DOWN ARMS......" In the anxious excitement with which we view the progress of the Battle of RUSSIA there is a chance of our missing the profound significance of this quotation from the terms of the Anglo-Russian alliance. The *Times*, for instance, says that the provision by which neither side shall lay down arms without the other's consent "implies the necessity of an agreement on the terms on which arms *shall* be laid down, and *therefore a common elaboration of peace aims.*"

The war on two fronts which Hitler has brought about is therefore much more than a military circumstance. It is a political fact of the utmost significance for the future.

When the Nazi peril has been forcibly disposed of, the liberated peoples of EUROPE will now be able to confer on and devise a stronger system of co-operation and re-insurance against aggression than ever before, and it is certain that there will be no attempt at a settlement of affairs in Eastern and South Eastern EUROPE, or in the MIDDLE or FAR EAST, without the participation of that vast and modernised Power the U. S. S. R.

MORE ANTI-NAZI ALLIANCES. Hatred of Hitler and his misdeeds are having a marvellously unifying effect on his liberty-loving adversaries. It is difficult to point to two peoples so apparently antagonistic as the Poles and the Russians were two years ago, yet to-day a very important Agreement between them has been signed in LONDON by M. Maisky and Gen. Sikorski. The negotiations preceding this happy outcome were naturally delicate, with two such outstanding questions as the 220,000 Polish prisoners in RUSSIA, and the Russo-Polish Frontier, to settle. The boundary question has of course to wait, but given goodwill, and there is now goodwill between the two nations, and the mutual preliminary declaration that the boundaries defined jointly by RUSSIA and GERMANY in 1939 no longer have any force, post-war collaboration and settlement look much easier. Meanwhile, according to the protocol, the Poles in Russian hands are to be released forthwith, the Poles may raise, and command, an army on U. S. S. R. territories, and each country will have an ambassador with the other's Government. The British Government have obviously been exceedingly helpful in bringing these ancient enemies so closely together, and must be as gratified as Hitler must be annoyed by a result on which the betting a few years back would have been more than a hundred to one against!

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WILL THE JAPS RUN AMOK? Not yet, is our guess. They have extracted SAIGON and CAMRANH BAY from the effete Vichyites, and they have thus advanced their forward bases for offensive action some 700 miles south, but the substitution of resolute action for diplomatic scolding by both BRITAIN and the U. S. A. ought to persuade Prince Konoye that his feline policy of "watching and waiting" had better be resumed for a bit. It can hardly be considered clever diplomacy on his part, however, to make his objects, and *ipso facto* JAPAN'S inherent weaknesses, so obvious. From INDO-CHINA, the Japs will get a lot of rice, which they are in need of, and a little rubber. But since all observers report that JAPAN is practically bankrupt of rubber, oil and iron, and we know that these products are to be found in THAILAND, MALAYA and the N. E. I., JAPAN'S protestations to the world that she is innocent of any intention to damage AMERICA, or BRITAIN, or HOLLAND (all of whom are vitally interested in those products and the security of the lands producing them) when she crouches like a jungle-cat on the nearest branch above the hen-run, are hardly worth the making. That her action *is* a threat to AMERICA has been made perfectly clear by Mr. Sumner Wells, when he said that "any alterations in the *status quo* in this area by other than peaceful means would be prejudicial to the peace and security of the entire Pacific area". Economic action by all the countries concerned confirms the validity of this warning. Neither

BRITAIN, nor the EMPIRE nor AMERICA are going to send JAPAN any more of the wherewithal for her piratic schemes, (oil, scrap iron, manganese and the like) and have frozen their credits and stopped their trade in their respective territories. In other words JAPAN must either make war to establish the 'new order in the east" while seeing her actual power to do so crippled, or resile. The limits to her peaceful penetration have now been set, and that she would be wise to concentrate on 'closing the Chinese incident' ought to be obvious to any leader who really does "watch and wait."

THE THREAT TO INDIA. We here, especially those of us who live near the Carnatic coast, are of course watching the veering of the Japanese weathercock with considerable interest. But the fact is that the Japanese occupation of the southern INDO CHINA bases does not in itself constitute a great threat. THAILAND lies between INDO-CHINA and BURMA, and THAILAND is not only intensely nationalistic, but genuinely friendly to BRITAIN. Japanese domination would be no more welcome to them than European. Then between THAILAND and BURMA lie the trackless SHAN STATES, most intricate and difficult hill-country with, (like the neighbouring and possibly threatened country of western CHINA), a tangled mass of mountains, swift rivers and tropical jungle. *Not* a very promising 'gateway into INDIA'; hardly more promising than the only other one, the great fortress of SINGAPORE, which we may confidently trust to look after itself.

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THE RUSSIANS HOLD ON. While the democratic world looks with grateful amazement on the magnificent showing of the Russians against their brutish invaders, the theorists of military strategy see a battle that is novel in both form and method becoming part of military history. Previous ideas of fronts and lines have become out of date and misleading, for here is a land war that becomes more and more like a naval war. Two mighty armies go manoeuvring about enormous spaces much like great fleets at sea. The air arms and mechanized divisions can be compared to squadrons of battle-cruisers and their attendant destroyers, while the mighty bulks of the infantry are like the battleships brought into action only when the scene has been prepared for them. "The acquisition or retention of industrial areas, railway junctions or airfields is important only in the light of bases of supply."

The technique which the Germans invented for the earlier stages of the war, namely the co-ordination of ground and air offensives, proved irresistible in the "narrow waters" of POLAND or FRANCE. Now, on the "wide oceans" of the Russian plains, they are up against a land "fleet" as well-equipped and well-practised as themselves, and further, they are up against a Staff who

have devised an ingenious system of weakening those once irresistable Panzers, by popping up in all sorts of unlikely places *behind* them. The Russian 'land-navies' may be fighting (at present) mainly a rearguard action, but they are successfully inserting 'submarines' between the enemy's advance units and his 'capital ships'.

A bit fantastic, d'you say? Well, never mind. The main thing is that while affairs move strictly 'as per skedool', the clockwork German is pretty hard to beat. But when he is faced with the unforseen he begins to falter in the field just as his BERLIN Radio begins to grouse!

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THE FADING DREAM. The enormous importance the Germans attach to a swift victory against RUSSIA is proved by the persistent 'negotiated peace' talk to be heard in most of the neutral or 'sub-neutral' countries during the last few weeks. There is no doubt that the German people still believe that (*a*) victory in RUSSIA will soon be theirs and that (*b*) the moment it is, BRITAIN will be prepared to 'talk sense'. They are convinced of it, and the categorical statements of Churchill and Eden are interpreted merely as the fulminations of discredited war-mongers. Some Germans may be feeling that the Russians are giving them more trouble on the LENINGRAD, MOSCOW, and KIEV thrusts than was expected, but they still comfort themselves with their ability to develop swiftly their alternative plans e. g. simultaneous drives via the UKRAINE, via the Black Sea, and via TURKEY. Remember that 80 % of the Russian oil supplies is concentrated in the BAKU area, even if they have their principal sources of other commodities right away up near the Urals.

Anyway, German diplomats abroad are steadily testing 'peace' chances. The Chargé d'Affaires in WASHINGTON has been making soundings about the attitude of the American and British publics to a direct radio appeal from Hitler ("after defeating RUSSIA"!) on the basis of an American guarantee of the British Empire, to which Hitler would profess no hostile attitude...... In SHANGHAI, German Embassy officials are boosting the timeliness of peace in the FAR EAST (provided, of course, that the Germans are given a free hand there). Persons in touch with the German Legation in LISBON are persistently suggesting that, after the defeat of RUSSIA, ENGLAND "will come to a sensible arrangement with GERMANY, to spare the world greater suffering." And the Finns are being told by German officers that there is a good chance of a fifty-fifty peace with BRITAIN, she to remain in control of the seas, while GERMANY runs the continent of EUROPE (whatever on earth that would mean!)

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GERMAN PSYCHOLOGY AGAIN. It is exactly characteristic of the German that he should float along on such substanceless dreams. He is totally unable to realise the

fundamental fallacy in his reasoning, which is that whereas Hitlerite GERMANY is fighting for aggrandisement, for *Weltmacht*, for a German World-order, the British Commonwealth and its Allies *have no such aim.* They are fighting for their future FREEDOM, they are fighting because a scourge of humanity as a whole *has* to be extirpated before the principles of liberty can be re-established. They have no interest whatever in power bargains negotiated with a loathed and despised polity, founded on and glorying in cynical and brutal principles, which have always been anathema to believers in the reality and sanctity of personal liberty.

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THE 'HONOUR' OF VICHY. JAPAN has now taken possession of the naval and air bases of French INDO-CHINA, by kind permission of Admiral Darlan. Note the consistency of VICHY professions of honour! When the French Mandated Territory of SYRIA was being flooded with Germans, considerations of French 'honour' made it incumbent upon them to resist the entry of British and Free French forces by force of arms. But when the Japanese propose to seize a French colony of some two hnndred years standing, Vichy's sense of honour finds no need to resist the rape!

The great number of us who have French friends must be sorrowfully wondering whether and how that once delightful nation can ever hold up its head again. The performance of the Italians in this war has earned them contempt and ridicule, but the corrupt machinations and disgusting treachery of a group by whom the French nation still allow themselves to be led can only be wiped out in democratic memories by the complete triumph of our cause in general, and by a denunciatory revolution in FRANCE of which the growing forces of Free Frenchmen all over the whole world are our present earnest.

NAVAL ASPECTS OF NAZI-SOVIET WAR.
EFFECT ON BRITISH BLOCKADE.
WILL RUSSIAN OIL PORTS BE INVADED?
OPPOSING FLEETS IN THE BLACK SEA.

by

H. C. Ferraby (*In a recent B. B. C. Talk*).

BY his attack on Russia Hitler has most kindly helped us with our blockade of the Axis powers. For many months past it was admitted by the Ministry of Economic Warfare that there was a leak, a gap through which it was possible for Germany to receive quite a considerable supply of contraband goods.

That leak was through Vladivostok. This Russian port on the Pacific coast is linked with Europe by the Trans-Siberian Railway, and through it, as the Minister of Economic Warfare has more than once pointed out publicly, Russia was importing materials far in excess of her normal purchases, and the inference was that much of this surplus was going along the railway to our enemies.

RUSSIAN IMPORTS.

I do not want to weary you with figures but here are one or two comparisons. **In seven months Russia imported through Vladivostok as much copper as she normally took in peace time in a year. In seven months she ;imported twice as much molybdenum, a metal of the utmost importance in armament manufacture, a shortage of which has always pressed heavily on German industry.**

In two months last winter, bales of American cotton for Russian buyers totalled more than Russia usually imported from all sources in a full year. All these imports, and many others besides, were sea-borne to Vladivostok.

Why did we not stop them? The simple answer is that we have not enough warships to spare to enforce our right of visit and search of all merchant ships for contraband in the great seas of the world. Now, by his assault on Russia Hitler has stopped all that traffic through Russia for us.

I do not suggest that the closing of Vladivostok is going to lead to the rapid collapse of the German war machine. It is not. The pressure of sea power is slow in working. It can be described by a phrase that was very popular a while ago in political circles: the inevitability of gradualness. This is like squeeze play at bridge. The full effect is not seen until the last two or three tricks of the game come to be played, and then the squeeze, or in the case of naval war the economic pressure, puts your opponent in such a position that he must collapse.

Hitler, by closing the neutral port for himself, has helped the squeeze. He

discarded the wrong cards at an early stage of the game.

IMPORTANT NAVAL ASPECTS.

There are other important naval aspects of the war between Germany and Russia, though we are not likely to see any big naval battles. Those are the mountain peaks that show up in history. But there are all sorts of foothills, as it were, to those mountains that are quite important.

First, take the Baltic. The Russian Baltic Fleet includes three very old battleships, two new cruisers and some older light cruisers, together with a number of new destroyers. How many of the 200 submarines that Russia is reputed to possess are stationed in the Baltic, we do not know.

Germany is able, thanks to the Kiel Canal, to interchange her ships at will between the North Sea and the Baltic, as she does not today maintain a separate Baltic Fleet as she did in the last war. In one respect the war against Russia in that area is of disadvantage to the Germans. Up to the present they have been able to use the Eastern Baltic as an absolutely peaceful training ground, both for surface ships and for submarines after they were delivered from the shipbuilders.

The *Bismarck*, for example, spent about three months up there, getting her ship's company accustomed to the ship, and working them up into a team. The presence of Russian submarines and motor torpedo-boats will prevent any such peaceful and undisturbed training henceforth.

SEA-BORNE INVASION UNLIKELY.

It seems improbable that any large scale sea-borne invasion along the shores of the Gulf of Finland will be attempted. The Germans had a very unhappy experience at Riga in the last war, when they attempted to land troops under cover of naval protection, and apparently their attempt at a small-scale operation near Viborg recently was a fiasco.

The Russians claim that it was driven off, and the Germans have not mentioned it at all. As the Germans can now threaten Leningrad by an overland attack through Finland, the need for sea transport for an army hardly arises.

But we must expect to see some naval demonstrations by German warships in the Baltic, if only for the sake of prestige. The *Tirpitz*, for example, may make a tip-and-run bombardment or two, since there is no comparable ship in the Russian Navy that could interfere with her. There have already been the usual German claims to have sunk this, that and the other ship of the Soviet Navy, but we know by long experience that rarely have such claims by Berlin any real foundation.

TWO VITAL PORTS.

Such naval actions as have taken place so far in the Baltic appear to be no more than skirmishes. Some of the lighter German craft have been

testing the strength of the Russian dispostions in the Gulf of Finland. There have been some losses on both sides, but here again we cannot trust the German official statements.

In addition to the Baltic there is the Black Sea, and the news of the past few days has given us some hints of interesting possibilities there. The Germans, in the very first hour of their assault, made heavy bombing raids on Sebastopol, because that is the main Russian naval base in the Black Sea, and there the Germans hope to do damage to the modern Russian warships that might dispute any attempt to pass troops across that Sea.

And the Russians announce that they have bombed all the collections of barges and shipping in the Rumanian ports at the month of the Danube, because they wanted to hamper at the very outset any such attempt to move troops by sea. It is not difficult to guess what both sides have in mind.

On the Eastern shore of the Black Sea you find on the map two ports, Batum and Tuapse. Many people may never have heard the name of either of them. Scores of others may just vaguely know that Batum has something or other to do with oil. **But those two ports are of vital importance to Russia because they are the outlets for the produce of the great Baku oil fields. Russia must keep them open under her own control.**

IMPORTANCE OF SEA POWER.

Germany wants to capture them, not so much for the sake of using them herself for the transport of oil to the west **but to starve the Russian mechanised army of supplies of oil.** Here again, you see the final pressure of sea power, the pressure of economic warfare, the cutting off of enemy supplies as a part of the strategy.

Batum lies 500 miles from the Rumanian frontier, and the German armies are little likely to overrun and conquer the whole of South Russia in a week or two, so as to make an approach to Batum by land possible. **But a sea-borne expeditionary force accompanied by slowly moving trains of barges could make the passage across the Black Sea in three days, provided the Germans can get command of the sea in that area.**

That point is worth noting. We are all rather accustomed to think of command of the sea as referring only to the great oceans of the world, just because command in general is only exercised by the oceanic powers. But command of the sea can be quite local, and it can be exercised by quite small ships.

It is a fact that two little motor boats fought for and obtained command of the sea on Lake Tanganyika in the last war, and so played an important part in the campaign against German East Africa. It is one of the oddest incidents in the history of sea power, and I have recalled it at this moment because Lake Tanganyika was enclosed water, not open ocean.

FAVOURABLE POSITION.

So is the Black Sea to all intents and purposes. Only the ships that are there, or can get there by inland rivers and waterways, will be concerned in any fighting for the command of the sea. **And the Russians have a navy there.** They have important modern fighting ships.

The Germans have only such Rumanian and Bulgarian warships as they may have taken over, plus any small craft—such as torpedo-boats and 200-ton submarines—that they may have sent down the Danube to make up some sort of escort for their shipping in the Black Sea.

A German sea-borne invasion of the Russian oil ports in the Black Sea ought not to be easily achieved. It ought to be set upon heavily by the big Russian destroyers. These are virtually like cruisers, with five five-inch guns, and they are much larger than the Rumanian destroyers. And alongside these the Russians have another dozen destroyers built or building in the Black Sea, and they even have completed by now two 8,800 ton cruisers.

The balance of material power in the Black Sea is all in favour of the Russians, and skilful use of it should give Hitler sharp lesson in the difficulties of sea-borne invasion, if he scorns the menace of the Russian Fleet and launches an expedition against Batum. He will find that the E-boats or motor torpedo-boats that he and Mussolini are trying to build up into such a naval bogey are not really effective as counters to bigger ships like destroyers. He will find that submarines are not suitable for use as convoys.

ILLUMINATING STATISTICS.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRODUCTION AND RAW MATERIALS.

Mr. Colin Clark, the well-known statistician of the Queensland Government, has recently published figures which are of especial interest in view of the German invasion of Russia, and the Democracies' promise of economic aid. According to Mr. Clark, during 1939, i. e., at a time when German industry was working at full capacity, while the industries of the Democratic states were still on a peace-time basis, German production reached 26,200,000 units (such units being the quantity of goods and services purchasable with $ 1,000 in the United States) and the production of Britain 29,000,000 units. The total for the whole Continent under Axis control amounted to 57,000,000, that of the British Commonwealth to 56,000,000 and the United States to 95,400,000.

The Axis Powers had, therefore, a production potential of approximately 83,000,000 units, while that of the Democracies was approximately

180,000,000. Here it must not be forgotten that the increase in production during the last two years must have raised the Democracies' potential to more than 200,000,000 units.

Not less important than productive capacity are raw material resources. The Democratic States possess 62·4 per cent of the world's petroleum output (some 28 per cent fall to neutral states), 85 per cent of rubber production 85·4 per cent and 90·6 per cent of copper and nickel output respectively, and 60·7 per cent of lead. Britain and the United States produce 63·9 per cent of the world's cotton, 58 per cent of its wool and approximately 50 per cent of its iron.

On May 16, i. e., before relations between Berlin and Moscow became strained, the Russian periodical *Krasnaja Zwezda* published statistics showing that Germany cannot produce more than 45,000,000 tons of steel yearly in its own works and the works of all occupied territories combined, whilst joint British and American steel production is estimated at approximately 105,000,000 tons.

FURTHER INCREASE IN BRITISH PRODUCTION.

It must be remembered that British production has still not reached the maximum, though showing a continual rise. The reserve of unemployed now amounts to hardly more than 100,000. In the view of the British Ministry of Labour, the remainder cannot be used in normal industrial work, but the concentration of industry and retail trades, and the registration of foreigners and women, mean that thousands of workers are still entering war industries.

The increase in production is also indicated by a further rise in Government expenditure. Government have already applied for a new credit authorisation for £ 1,000,000,000 for the period from July to September. The total daily Government expenditure has already far exceeded he, £ 10,000,000 mark, and a total expenditure up to £ 14,000,000 must soon be expected. From January until March, 1941, Britain's war expenditure averaged £ 14,000,000 to £ 14,500,000 daily. These figures included, however, payments to the United States. From the beginning of April supplies from America have been coming in under the Lease and Lend Act. At that time the daily expenditure fell back to £ 10,000,000, and remained at this level for some weeks. But, for the first 75 days of the current budget year (April 1 to June 14), the total expenditure of the British Government has already reached £ 887,000,000, or an average of almost £ 12,000,000, per day. In other words, the British war effort is slowly approaching a figure which previously covered the supplies of both Britain and America. Thus, within one year, British production has increased its capacity by more than 50 per cent, and it is still increasing.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ICELAND.

"AMERICAN STRATEGY".

WHAT ENTRY INTO "WAR ZONE" MAY MEAN.

The Manchester Guardian in an editorial on "American Strategy" writes on July 9:

SINCE the President's broadcast on May 27 Americans have gained a sense of strategy. They realise, as he then said, that the control or occupation by Nazi forces of any islands of the Atlantic would jeopardise the immediate safety of portions of North and South America and the island possessions of the United States, and the ultimate safety of continental United States itself.

They accept, too, his prescription that common sense calls for "the use of strategy which will prevent such an enemy from gaining a foothold in the first place".

The United States has now committed herself to the defence without stint of Iceland against aggression. She ensures that this "strategic outpost" shall be safeguarded, and at the same time, as President Roosevelt announced, has sent "substantial forces" to Trinidad and British Guiana to forestall any wide "pincers movement" by Germany against the Americas. That is the negative preventive side. The positive is more immediately important. **With Iceland as a naval and air base, the part of the United States in the control of the Atlantic waters has enormously increased.**

She enters the so-called "war zone" proclaimed by Hitler, and puts her forces across the Northern Atlantic approaches. Her navy is now instructed to "ensure the safety of communications between Iceland and the United States", which means the North Atlantic up to the 20th meridian.

It follows that by this means the United States greatly increases her assistance to us by getting supplies across. Since the end of April there have been reports in American papers of discussions between the British and American authorities of ways of co-operation to keep open the sea-lanes from Halifax to Greenland, Iceland and Scotland. It is probably fair to assume that we may now see American protection of shipping as far as Icelandic waters, which will allow the British navy to concentrate on the last and most dangerous stage. The United States has not formally agreed to convoy, and it remains to be seen whether that is an operative word, and whether the new conception of patrols and the ensured "safety of communications" will not be equally effective. This course involves the United States in risks, as has

every other step she has taken. **But, if she wishes, as she clearly does, to make certain that Britain gets the supplies she is sending, a risk of what is commonly called "shooting" must be run. The entry into the German "war zone" shows that it is accepted.** British response to this American action must be one of gratitude. It may be one of the decisive things in the war. It opens up wide fields of co-operation in the protection of shipping and watch for raiders.

PROBLEMS INTRODUCED BY THE ARMOURED DIVISION.

HOW THE RUSSIANS ARE TACKLING THEM.

HOW NAZI AND SOVIET SUCCESSES MUST BE MEASURED.

by

"Strategicus".

The struggle in Russia has been proceeding on a scale and with a fury unprecedented in this or any other war. It is impossible to say how many divisions are actually engaged, but earlier estimates have almost certainly been exceeded. It was originally thought that the Germans had only deployed 120 divisions exclusive of armoured units, but it now appears probable that at least 40 more have been thrown in, and the Russians will naturally use all their mobilised units. The German figures, of course, must be gravely discounted.

Whatever happens on the Russian front, the war can never be the same again. If the Germans can so disintegrate the Russian armies that fighting degenerates into a mere affair of disorganised resistance by small pockets as in Abyssinia, the Germans will have achieved what they so much desire **only if the victory has been achieved at negligible cost.** If their success should fall short of this, if they suffer heavy losses and only succeed after a long-drawn-out struggle, they will have failed. It is already clear that they are finding the struggle harder than they anticipated.

They have been astonished at the bravery and stubbornness of the Russian resistance, and it is certain that they have suffered heavy loss of material and men.

For the first time, the Germans are meeting strong and intelligent resistance, from an opponent clearly not inferior either in numbers or in material. The Russian army is fighting the war of today. The armoured

division has introduced problems which make out of date fighting on lines and positions, but in Russia for the first time the Germans are being faced with an intelligent attempt to provide an adequate solution. Fighting is taking place over extensive areas; and reports must be read from that point of view. The Russians are trying to check, canalise and counteract the tank attack, and, with this purpose in view, they have interposed their infantry between the tank spearhead and the following infantry.

Consequently, battles are taking place near the frontier and 200 miles to the east. At the farthest point of penetration it is presumably tank thrusts which are being dealt with; near the frontier it is the infantry who are at grips; and it is unusually difficult to see how the struggle is going.

In the great battles of Western Europe, the armies attempted to meet the infiltration of armoured units by falling back, and endeavouring to interpose an unbroken front to the attack. This proved, and must prove, abortive, since no infantry can keep up with tanks, and hasty withdrawals repeatedly placed them in a dangerous tactical situation.

The Russians are meeting the attack more intelligently. They leave the tanks to expend their force, while trying to crush the heads of columns by tank counter-attacks and assault from the air, while their infantry meet and fight the German infantry. They are, in fact, trying to confine armoured units to their róle of cavalry. We cannot yet estimate the measure of their success, but it is upon these lines that the tank attack will sooner or later be checked, and reduced to more manageable proportions. Meanwhile we can measure the German success by the time they take to succeed (if they do) in reducing the Russian armies to impotence, and the Russian success by the length of time they hold out, and these long-drawn-out battles over deep areas west of Moscow and Kiev bear witness to the fact that the German struggle is not there conforming to the *Blitzkrieg* pattern.

DEVELOPMENT OF ASIATIC RUSSIA. MOVEMENT OF INDUSTRY FROM THE WEST. WHAT LOSS OF UKRAINE WOULD MEAN TO RUSSIANS.

[*The following facts concerning the development of Asiatic Russia are given in the current number of the* ***Economist***].

The most important new industrial centre is the Kusnotzk basin in Central Asia which is linked with the Ural industrial centre around the iron-ore deposits at Magnitogorsk. The extent of the movement is shown by the fact that,

whereas in 1913 the Ukraine produced 87·2 per cent of the total output of coal and in 1938 60·3 per cent, the intended 1942 output of the Ukraine will be only 48·7 per cent of the total, while the Moscow areas increase their 6·1 per cent to 15 per cent of the total, the Ural area from 6·4 per cent to 11 per cent and Central Asia from ·7 per cent to two per cent.

The same shift is visible in iron and steel production. Before the last war the Ukraine produced nearly all the output of iron and steel. For 1942 the five-year plan provides for developments which would leave the Ukraine with only 53 per cent of the total output planned for 1942 (namely, 27,500,000 tons). In agriculture extensive irrigation schemes are being carried out, and the climate favours a wide variety of produce including rubber, in which large-scale experiments are being made.

The *Economist* concludes: The loss of the Ukraine would mean a loss of about half of Russia's heavy industries, and the conquest of the Caucasus the loss of most of the current oil output and nearly all the refining capacity. **But the new industrial centres in the Ural and Asia would remain intact even if the whole of European Russia were occupied.**

An important conclusion from the above appears to be that in case of a successful retreat to the Urals the Russians will be in urgent need of machine tools, and particularly oil-striking plant, for an intense development of the huge untapped resources of Asiatic Russia, and much may depend on the possibility of supplying these at short notice through Vladivostok.

THROUGH AMERICAN EYES.

SHOULD AID BE GIVEN TO RUSSIA?

PART THAT AMERICAN NAVY COULD PLAY.

WAS CRETE REASON FOR NAZI MOVE EASTWARDS?

Here are typical American press comments on the European situation for the period from June 25 to July 3, 1941.

*The **Boston Traveller** of June 25 writes:*

AID to Russia is not a bid for friendship. It is a realistic recognition that material assistance given to any country opposing Germany is a contribution towards the ultimate defeat of Hitlerism.

The New York Times of June 30 writes :.

Only mental, moral or material weakness could account for Hitler taking an unnecessary risk, and retracing his steps and attacking Russia before his westward aim is achieved. Germany is now a military dictatorship, and Nazi leadership is disappearing. Ley knows he is through, and Goebbels has been given a chance to show co-operation with the new set up. Minor party leaders are being liquidated ; Boemer, head of the press section of the Propaganda Ministry, disappeared three weeks ago. After the Hess flight the Gestapo rounded up truckloads of men in north Berlin, many in Storm Troopers' uniform. Hitler has lost contact with the people, and it sometimes takes weeks before officials can see him on highly important matters, and then Hitler uses them as an audience to rant at. No one dares to suggest to Hitler that the people are not behind him, or to bring to his attention the discontent among the people. Hess knew the German discontent better than anyone, and wanted the British to sue for peace. Hess was sure that if Russia refused the German demands, Germany would declare war, and Hess feared that if Britain and the United States continued the war, Germany would bog down in Russia.

The New York Sun of June 30 writes :

Americans from every State in the Union are answering the British call for a non-combatant civilian technical corps.

Applications are pouring into the office of the British Consulate General in New York, and before another two weeks have passed, the first contingent of volunteers is expected to sail from an unnamed Canadian port.

There will be radio technicians, metal workers, electricians, mechanics, machine tool setters and operators, and workmen skilled in building and maintaining marine engines. The majority will serve as radio locators.

More than 3,000 applications were received during the first week of recruiting, and each mail brings in scores of others. Applications come from people of every station in life.

The New York Herald-Tribune of July 1 writes :

The energetic use of the American Navy ought to be able to go a long way towards clearing the seas of submarine pirates, and putting the line of communications to Britain from jeopardy. Thus freed from all cut action, the British forces should be able to smash submarine bases and building yards and do such havoc to Western Germany and her communications across the Low Countries as to render the British base impregnable to a Nazi attack this year if not for ever, however the fighting in Russia may go.

All this can be done now, in the absence of the *Luftwaffe*, at a minimum cost. The British are finding it possible to use deadly day-bombing against Hamburg and Bremen; with energetic action by both countries now in these new few weeks, the ultimate possibilities are tremendous.

The St. Louis Star Times of June 30 writes:

All Europe is rising against Soviet Russia, say the great liars of the Nazi hierarchy, who pervert the truth so habitually for their own purpose. All Europe rising? Are the tortured Poles caught in the Nazi General Government in Poland rising against the Soviets? Are Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Greece rising? The western democratic front is not splitting. Churchill and Roosevelt have spoken the mind of the West, and with them are standing the remaining allies—de Gaulle's Free French and the legitimate spokesmen of Norway and the Netherlands. Even Denmark has remained silent, despite Hitler's monstrous posturings as Europe's champion against Bolshevism.

COSMOPOLITANA.

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1. "I feel very proud to assume command of that army which responded so wholeheartedly on every occasion on which as Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East I asked for its assistance."

(*General Sir Archibald Wavell in an Order of the Day, July 18*).

2. "The National Defence Council will be very far from being a body of 'yes-men'."

(*Mr. Amery, in London, July 22*).

3. "In the pride of resistance we salute you. We will stand together until the end."

(*Mr. E. G. Ammon, Chairman of the London County Council, in a telegram to the Chairman of the Moscow Soviet, July 23*).

4. "This time we will not lose the peace. We will build better."

(*Mr. Eden, British Foreign Secretary, in a message for Belgium's National Day, July 21*).

5. "Had they found themselves in England's position after the French collapse last summer the Germans would have capitulated."

(*Sebastian Haffner, quoted by J. B. Priestly in a B. B. C. talk, July 17*)

6. "Last Wednesday the people of Rotterdam cheered and cried for joy when the R. A. F. was overhead—an example of the bad spirit still prevalent in the Netherlands."

(***German-controlled Dutch*** *wireless, reported July 23*).

7. "The purpose of marriage is neither divine nor natural but political, namely a child over which the State has complete control. If this purpose is not achieved, marriage is morally wrong and must be ended."

(*Nazi official organ 'Elite Guard'*).

8. "Twelve months have passed, and although none of us can say that Victory is yet in sight or just round the corner, we do know that we have got our second wind, and are going strong, and that Victory is nearer by twelve months than it was."

(*H. E. the Viceroy, Madras, July 31*).

9. "The light is coming nearer than we think. The miserable helpless victims behind the wall of Hitler are beginning to see the light."

"The flames of war are sweeping the world like a forest fire-running before a gale. The preservation of liberty itself depends on us. We shall not fail."

(*Mr. H. A. Wallace, U. S. Vice-President, Berlington, July 31*).

10. "India is becoming an arsenal for freedom between the Suez and Hongkong, and it might be said that one of the chief objects of the administrative changes which are now being carried into effect is to convert the Government arsenal into a national factory."

(*London Times, August 1*).

11. "Hitler has turned the world upside down, just as Napoleon did a hundred years ago. At the end of a long day Napoleon was smashed by the Duke of Wellington.........

"Though the next few months may be crucial, we are now more confident than ever before that our final victory is sure."

(*Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to U. S. A., Washington, August 2*).

Examples of Misleading Statements in Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East for the period July 21—27, 1941.

A.—BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH.

DISASTER FOR GOEBBELS.

Never has the elaborate and expensive Nazi propaganda machine suffered such a hopeless and humiliating break-down as in its attempts to cover up the poor performance of the German armies in Russia.

Apart from two small advances in the north and south, the front line remains where it was a week ago. Kiev whose fall was described by the Germans as "imminent" a fortnight ago, is still firmly held. Smolensk, which the Germans claimed to have occupied on July 16, is still in Russian hands.

Yet Goebbels continues to paint colourful word pictures of four million healthy young German giants opposed to a hopeless and decrepit rabble entirely devoid of stamina, enthusiasm and leadership.

India was told on July 21 that.........

"The desperate efforts of the Bolsheviks to support their shaken ranks by flinging the Communist Youth Organisation of Women's battalions into the battle have not succeeded in restoring their position. As their last means the Soviets have now fallen back on the **factory guards of the Petersburg works, strengthened by retired police officers and members of the fire brigade. Armed with cutlasses and muzzle-loaders,** with machine-guns mounted in their rear, these unfortunate wretches are driven against the German tanks and shock troops in a mad attempt to stop the German drive. By hundreds of thousands **these last defenders of Communism** were killed or taken prisoner."

But three days later the Essen *National Zeitung* reminded its readers that "the Russian High Command has immense reserves; new masses of Soviet soldiers can always be mobilised to hurl against German lines", and the *Frankfurter Zeitung* says, "**Fortresses we thought we had captured have suddenly renewed their resistance, utilising underground fortifications not noticed by our forces. Here and there we have been compelled to fight in territories we had considered conquered**".

These factory guards, retired police officers and members of the fire brigades, with their cutlasses and muzzle-loaders, seem to know their stuff!

"GHOST" RADIO STATION.

That was not the only blunder the Axis made over the Moscow raids. On July 24 Berlin quoted an alleged statement broadcast from Leningrad on **July 23** admitting "the havoc wrought by the German air attack on Moscow".

But on **July 18** Berlin had given us a graphic description of an air attack on the Leningrad radio station. "The German planes", said the announcer, "destroyed the broadcasting station in the twinkling of an eye; the entire technical installations were destroyed".

Russian technicians, skilful as they are, would hardly be able to rebuild the entire station in five days.

MUSSOLINI'S MEDITERRANEAN.

Reporting the attempted aerial *blitz* on a British convoy in the Mediterranean last week, the Italian War *Communiqué* (July 25) says ;—

"The bombers sank a British vessel of 10,000 tons. The torpedo-carrying planes had sunk two additional large vessels, namely a vessel of 2,000 tons and a tanker of 15,000 tons.

"A cruiser returning to Gibraltar was torpedoed by Italian planes while another warship of large tonnage was hit by a bomb of 500 kilograms. It is now learnt that an aircraft carrier was also damaged on July 23 by an Italian bomber. One of the damaged steamers has meanwhile sunk. The number of destroyed enemy planes has increased to eight while five Italian machines are missing."

British losses in this three-day attack were :—

1 destroyer, damaged and later sunk by British units ;
1 destroyer damaged ;
1 merchant ship damaged, but safe in port ;
6 aircraft, but four of the crews safe.

Italian losses were :—

1 submarine probably destroyed ;
1 E-boat sunk ;
1 E-boat damaged ;
12 aircraft shot down ;
4 aircraft probably destroyed.

Broadcasting from London on July 26, the First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. A. V. Alexander, reported that the convoy of troops and munitions had—in spite of the Italian attacks—arrived at its destination safely and on time. "The destination for the convoy", he said, "was in a very dangerous spot.

The route was through narrow waters close to enemy bases. **The safe and timely arrival of the convoy meant reinforcements for our forces in the Mediterranean in ships, fresh troops, munitions and stores".**

These facts seem to corroborate the sentiments expressed by the German official news agency in a despatch, dated May 27, 1941, which said :—

"The news published by the *Corriere della Sera* is entirely false, says the Minister for Foreign Affairs, **as is all other news emanating from Rome".**

NAZIS UNEASY.

Reviewing offensive operations by the R. A. F. on July 22, 23 and 24 Berlin (July 26) claimed that "while the British lost 102 planes in three days, the German losses during the same period amounted to only seven machines".

British and German air losses for these three days were : —

July 22	6 R.A.F. fighters	9 German fighters.
July 23	10 R.A.F. fighters	14 German fighters.
	5 R.A.F. bombers.	
July 24	7 R.A.F. fighters	34 German fighters.
	15 R.A.F. bombers.	

So the R.A.F. lost 43 planes, *not* 102; while the *Luftwaffe* lost 57 machines—exactly 50 *more* than the German radio admits.

Recent German claims to have destroyed vast numbers of British aircraft are a measure of their growing uneasiness as the weight of the R. A. F. offensive increases. It will be remembered that the same tactics were followed by Goebbels last autumn when, during the Battle of Britain, the German radio regularly broadcast figures which were almost exactly the reverse of the facts.

GERMANY NEEDS A QUICK VICTORY
A GOEBBELS CALENDAR.

Russia's remarkable stand against violent and treacherous attack has disappointed the German hopes expressed in the following series of boasts :

November 1940.

"In half a year I will talk to you again, and you will see that my prophecy of victory will have been correct." *Goebbels to Scandinavian correspondents in Berlin.*

March 1941.

"I affirm again that before the year is over Germany will finish the war." *Goebbels to Spanish correspondents in Berlin.*

June 26, 1941.

"The Soviet army has already been defeated in the first days." *Goebbels in "Dienst aus Deutschland".*

June 30, 1941.

"The German advance will now be practically unopposed." *Rome Radio, quoting Berlin.*

July 7, 1941.

"The Russians have thrown in their last reserves." *German Army communiqué.*

July 13, 1941.

"From now onwards the interior of the Soviet Union lies open to our victoriously advancing troops." *German Home broadcast.*

July 15, 1941.

"It is an indisputable fact that the Russian army has ceased to exist as an entity." *Rome Radio's portuguese broadcasts.*

July 20, 1941.

"The fighting ability of the Red Army has been destroyed." *German broadcasts.*

July 21, 1941.

"It is now only a matter of days before Leningrad will be captured or evacuated." *German broadcast in Norwegian.*

Every week that passes without substantial German successes, every week in which the Russian armies remain intact and their guerilla bands active behind the enemy's forward units, means another nail in Hitler's coffin.

Signs are multiplying that the German intention was a swift and spectacular success in Russia, followed by another of Hitler's notorious "peace-offers" to the nations that stand across his path to world-domination.

Britain has refused, and will always refuse, to parley with those whose word is worthless. But the Germans have been told by their leaders that the world will soon accept Nazi tyranny as a permanent system.

If Hitler wins the battle of Russia, the peril of all other nations would at once become more acute. If, on the other hand, Russia, with British assistance, can hold the fort, the opportunity will arise to deal a heavy blow to German confidence.

Every nation now realises the issues involved. There must be no relaxing of effort if the Allied grip on the wild beast is to be tightened into a stranglehold.

THERE IS A REASON.

"I have seen Winston Churchill carried on the shoulders of bombed-out people who shouted 'Hurray'. I've never heard of Mr. Hitler visiting any of his bombed areas. There must be a reason."

Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, at Boston, June 14, 1941.

B.—BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES.

A NAZI PROMISE IS A NAZI THREAT.

After a long and contradictory harangue about the Indian prisoners of war in Germany, Berlin's Hindustani broadcast of July 24 concludes with the fervent declamation that Germany has no enmity towards India.

The world, however, has witnessed the bloodstained record of the Nazis and rightly come to the conclusion that a Nazi promise is, more often than not, a prelude to Nazi violence. The following examples, which by no means comprise the whole catalogue of Nazi crimes, will suffice :—

Holland. "Germany will respect the inviolability and integrity of the Netherlands in all circumstances".

German Minister at Hague, August 26, '39.

Invaded and Occupied May 1940.

France. "We want nothing from France. We have guaranteed France's frontiers for ever".

Goering, September 9, 1939.

Dismembered and Plundered June 1940.

Russia. "Never will Germany and Russia slaughter each other for the sake of Britain......This agreement, which settles for all time the relations between the two biggest European peoples, is of fundamental historical significance".

Voelkische Beobachter, September 25, 1939.

Attacked June 22, 1941.

IMAGINED ATROCITIES IN IRAQ.

Dr. Goebbels' Hindustani, Persian and Arabic broadcasts of July 24 invent completely baseless stories about so-styled persecution and hangings in Iraq. The Nazis, furthermore, quote Ankara reports to confirm their wild stories. What Ankara really thinks of Britain's policy in Iraq is plain to everyone. Turkish Prime Minister, Dr. Saydam, in his speech on July 5,

declared : "**British moderation and foresight in handling the Iraqi situation, and her guarantee of Iraqi independence are worthy of Turkish praise and congratulation**".

FOOD TO FRENCH SOMALILAND.

In their Arabic broadcast of June 22, the Germans accuse the British of wishing to starve women and children in French Somaliland.

Actually, General Wavell informed the Governor of Jibuti (French Somaliland) last June that he must make up his mind either to join General de Gaulle's Free French forces immediately or dissociate himself from the pro-Axis policy. **Even in the event of a refusal to negotiate on this proposal, General Wavell expressed his willingness to evacuate women and children, and meanwhile to supply them with milk and essential foods until the evacuation is completed.**

"ADVANCING VICTORIOUSLY TO DOOM".

Enumerating their achievements in one month of the Russian campaign, the Nazis' Hindustani, Persian and Arabic broadcasts of July 22 state that irreparable damage has been inflicted on the Soviet Army and the Air Force, and that Russia has suffered about a million and a half casualties.

These accounts, which maintain a complete silence over Germany's own losses, are so fictitious that even the German Generals contradict them. Among the documents captured by the Russian units is an order issued by Major-General Mehring, Commander of the 18th tank division, which reads: "**The losses in equipment, weapons and machines are very great indeed, and are far in excess of the booty captured. In this way we are advancing victoriously to our doom**".

NAZIS DISAPPOINTED.

Germany in her Hindustani, Persian and Arabic broadcasts of July 23, complains that the British promised to land their forces on the Continent on July 20, but did nothing of the sort.

The fact that the Nazis are obviously confusing Britain's 'V' campaign, which attained its crescendo on July 20, with an invasion of Europe shows the state of nerves those would-be Invaders of Britain have now reached. Besides, **if they expect Britain to present a visiting card to the Nazis, before launching a British invasion of the Nazi territory, they are likely to be greatly disappointed**.

PROGRAMME OF LECTURES

OF THE

Pudukkottai State War Information Bureau.

1941—

LECTURE LVI.

August ... 9, Saturday	...	Town Hall ...	6.30 p. m.
10, Sunday	...	College (A) English ...	10.15 a. m.
		Muslim Association, Pudukkottai.	5.30 p. m.
		Nirpalani ...	6.00 p. m.
		Avoor ...	6.30 p. m.
11, Monday	...	College (B) Tamil ...	10.15 a. m.
		Rani's High School ...	10.15 a. m.
		Karayur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Idayathur ...	6.30 p. m.
12, Tuesday	...	Andakkulam ...	6.00 p. m.
		Killanur ...	6.30 p. m.
13, Wednesday		C. S. M. High School ...	10.00 a. m.
		Puduppatti (Ponnamaravathi).	6.00 p. m.
		Vendampatti ...	6.30 p. m.
14, Thursday	...	Narthamalai ...	6.00 p. m.
		Uppiliakkudi ...	6.30 p. m.
15, Friday	...	Semmattividuthi ...	6.00 p. m.
		Malayur ...	6.30 p. m.

LECTURE LVII.

16, Saturday	...	Town Hall ...	6.30 p. m.
17, Sunday	...	College (A) English ...	10.15 a. m.
		Thiruvarangulam ...	6.00 p. m.
		Vamban ...	6.30 p. m.
18, Monday	...	College (B) Tamil ...	10.15 a. m.
		Rani's High School ...	10.15 a. m.
		Melur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Pillamangalam ...	6.30 p. m.
19, Tuesday	...	Kolavoipatti ...	6.00 p. m.
		Kilayur (South) ...	6.30 p. m.
20, Wednesday		C. S. M. High School ...	10.00 a. m.
		Cheri School ...	5.30 p. m.
		Odukkur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Marudampatti (Nanguppatti).	6.30 p. m.
21, Thursday	...	Vellanur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Sembattoor ...	6.30 p. m.
22, Friday	...	Puliyur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Kannangudi ...	6.30 p. m.

Sri Brihadamba State Press, Pudukkottai. 1,000—9-8-41.